

REMARKS

Claims 1-50 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that the following inventions are present in the claims:

Group I, Claims 1-23 and 35-38, are drawn to low coherence imaging interference, classified in class 356, subclass 479; and

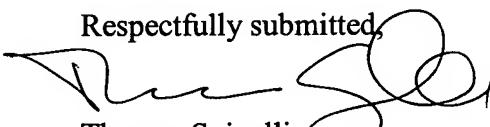
Group II, Claims 24-34 and 39-50 are drawn to an endoscope system with focus adjustment, classified in class 600, subclass 167.

It is the Examiner's position that the inventions listed as Groups I and II are distinct from each other.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, Applicants elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group I, Claims 1-23 and 35-38. However, Applicants reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter in this application.

In view of the foregoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims, at an early date, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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